In July, 1896, the State Government informed that as the Bill has been passed and enacted as University of Health Science Act, 1986, the first reference forwarding the Bill for concurrence of the Government of India may be treated as withdrawn. Action to set up the Medical University has therefore, to be taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Goods Traffic

2068. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp fall in railway loadings during the last two years and if so, what are the details thereof and reasons for such a fall;

(b) whether the fall is partly due to development of alternate transport systems or due to poor services and delays and red-tape ingrained in the Railways; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to eliminate inefficiency and pilferage and delays in goods traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The various aspects of performance are intensively monitored at various levels to improve efficiency. It is a continuous process and there has been significant improvement in efficiency indices like wagon turn round, net tonne kilometres per wagon day, engine kilometres etc. Some of the important measures taken to improve efficiency and to eliminate delays and pilferage of goods traffic are detailed below:

(1) Loading of traffic from originating points is arranged in block loads so that they can go direct to destination without involving handling in marshalling yards en-route.

(2) Smaller yards are being gradually closed.

(3) A system of unit train operation has been adopted.

(4) Through trains are being run with diesel or electric engines to ensure that they run at a good speed.

(5) Delay at loading and unloading points is being eliminated so that the wagon turn-round improves.

(6) Trains carrying valuable booked consignments are escorted by the RPF especially in crime prone sections.

(7) Yards vulnerable for high incidence of pilferage of goods are specially patrolled by armed RPF men as also by the Dog squads.

(8) RPF personnel are also deployed for patrolling along railway rtack in vulnerable sections|sectors prone for thefts|pilferage of goods.

(9) Armed pickets and patrols are also posted at outer signals, shunting necks and other vulnerable spots in and around affected areas.

(10) Crime intelligence staff are deployed to conduct surprise raids to effect red-handed capture of culprits.

(11) Special drives are conducted against receivers of railway stolen propetry and cases are taken up under the RP(UP) Act 1966.

(12) Notorious criminals|receivers of stolen property are also detained under the National Security Act.

(13) Close coordination between the RPF, the Government Railway Police and the local Police is maintained at various levels to deal with the criminals and receivers of stolen property.

Release of Anti-Leprosy vaccine

2069. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that anti-leprosy vaccine has been released in the market